(b) the norms being followed in selecting the Chief Executives and Executives Directors in the Central Public Sector Undertakings?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Information will be collected and laid on the table of the House.

(b) there is no reservation for the Members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for appointment to the Board-level positions in the Central Public Sector Undertakings. The selections are made on the basis of the specific job requirements of each Board-level post from among the candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria with regard to age, experience and the posts held by them in their respective organisations. At the time of interview, the Public Enterprises Selection Board also takes into account the experience, service records and the Annual Confidential Reports of the persons and their performance in the the interview.

[*Translation*]

Letter of Intent to set up Sugar Mill in Uttar Pradesh

3298. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had issued a letter of intent to set up a sugar mill in Aenthu Kalakankar village of district Pratapgarh in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the progress made in the setting up of the sugar mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Project authorities, the progress made in the implementation of the project is as under:-

(i) They have purchased 2.5 Acres (approx) land for the construction of buildings etc.

(ii) They have entered into a memorandum of understanding with TEDCO international Ltd., New Delhi for financial arrangement to the extent of Rs. 4 crores in a phased manner.

(iii) They have developed few acres of land for cane plantation by supplying Cane seed.

(iv) They are inviting quotations for the purchase of plant and machinery.

Drinking Water Problem in Gujarat

3299. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sought any financial assistance from the Union Government to solve the problem of drinking water:

(b) the number of villages in Gujarat where drinking water is yet to be provided;

(c) the financial assistance likely to be provided this year to supply drinking water in the State; and

(d) the details of other schemes of the State for providing drinking water in the villages particularly in the tribal belt?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Safe drinking water is yet to be provided in 50 'No Source' problem villages.

(c) During 1991-92, the financiai assistance of Rs. 16.33 crores under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) Rs. 2.92 crores under Mini-Mission Projects and Rs. 2 crores for coverage of 1000 scheduled caste/scheduled tribe habitation if likely to be provided to the State Government of Gujarat to supply drinking water in rural areas.

(d) The State Government has also made provision of Rs. 47.00 crores under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) during 1991-92 to provide drinking water facilities in the villages.

[*English*]

Price of Cement

3300. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of cement is showing a downward trend; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). There have been reports of fall in retail cement prices at all the important consumption centres in the Northern Region and some consumption centres in the Eastern and the Western Regions. The prices in the Southern Region, however, have remained constant. A comparative statement showing the retail cement prices at important consumption centres as on the 1st October, 1991 and 3rd December, 1991 and variation in prices is given in the Annexure.

STATEMENT

Variation in the Retail Price of Cement Per Bag at Important Consumption Centres

(In Rupees)

Name of the City	*Price as on 03.12.91*	*Variation between 01.10.91*	*1.10.91 and 03.12.91*
NORTHERN REGION			
Delhi	95-110	110-115	—5
Karnal	102-106	115-116	—10
Ludhiana	108—110	113—115	—5
Chandigarh	102-106	105-110	—4
Jaipur	106—106	106-106	—
Lucknow	95—100	114-115	—15